The State of Washington



Proclamation

WHEREAS, Washington citizens who have served in the military or are currently serving in the National Guard, Reserves, or active-duty military contribute daily to the strength and security of our state; and

WHEREAS, during these times of high unemployment rates, many military veterans making the transition from active service to civilian life find themselves competing for limited job openings that require additional skills; and

WHEREAS, assistance is readily available to provide military veterans with training and credentialing for civilian jobs, employment, career planning guidance, and other supportive services; and

WHEREAS, services are also available to connect employers with veterans who are looking for work; and

WHEREAS, the Employment Security Department, the Department of Veterans Affairs, the state Military Department, the statewide WorkSource system, and many locally based organizations are committed to helping Washington's veterans obtain sustainable, living-wage jobs;

NOW, *THEREFORE*, I, Christine O. Gregoire, Governor of the state of Washington, do hereby proclaim November 2011 as

Hire-a-Vet Month

in Washington State, and I challenge employers across the state to make employment opportunities available for Washington's veterans.

Signed this 20th day of September, 2011

Governor Christine O. Gregoire